

Letter 178

April 20, 2000

Dear Sirs,

I am writing to protest the construction of the Sumas Energy 2 natural gas fired generation plant in Sumas, Washington. My protest is not just for the plant itself but against the proposed high voltage power line that will, if approved run right through the city of Abbotsford.

This plant will emit more than 200 tons of nitrous oxide, 160 tons of ammonia, 200 tons of particulate matter, 90 tons of carbon monoxide per year. These are no small amounts being subjected to the residents of the whole Fraser Valley. This is no small project and these figures do not take into account the accumulative or residual effects of these emissions on our whole ecosystem.

I believe that the DEIS Document prepared for the application with the energy board EFSAC has many huge gaps and some very erroneous statements as to the human health effects. The area north east of this plant, which is where these emissions will go is known to have the worst air quality in Canada. As well this plant will draw huge amount of valuable water from the Sumas/Abbotsford aquifer, which will eventually reduce the levels of the farm wells. This entire valley is one of the best agricultural areas in the country and there has been nothing said about the effects of all this on contaminating the food chain. As to the possibility of the transmission lines going north into Canada, this is just not something that I as a citizen of Abbotsford and one who home will be directly backed up against this line want to accept. These lines will have a effect on me and my family's health and the economic well being on my community. This does not even address the contaminants that we'll be in the effluent coming from the plant which are also being proposed to be sent to Canada and after "processing" will be dumped into the already over contaminated and dying Fraser River system. The right away along which the power line is proposed to run behind our home is home to a variety of wild life and sensitive salmon spawning creek is also very close to this line. The effects of this proposed project has not been fully examined into the whole eco-health of the valley.

I do not wish to see this project go ahead and urge you to use your powers and persuasion to put an end to this proposal. I do not want to see this scenic and productive valley used as a dumping ground for the wastes that will affect not just my children but many future generations of valley residents. Please listen to the citizens that will be most affected by this plant.

Sincerely

Mrs D. McMillan
Abbotsford Resident.